

February 7, 2014

# Weekly Views

If you or a dependant member of your household is currently a full-time college student during the Spring 2014 semester, visit [www.cpafi.org](http://www.cpafi.org) for an application for scholarship opportunities ranging from \$1000 to \$5000. Apply today! Questions may be directed to [lsalinas@cpafi.org](mailto:lsalinas@cpafi.org).

Staff from the Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) participated in the 2014 Polar Plunge for Special Olympics. Twelve staff including Superintendent Wendy Knight and Assistant Superintendent Bill Hyatte made up the CIF "Duck Dynasty" team complete with camo clothing and breads (photo right). The team



received the Best Costume Award for the second year in a row, and also for the second year in a row, the team raised the most money with a total of \$3,435.

Superintendent Knight commented, "Special Olympics is very special to CIF, we also participated in the Torch Run and Plane Pull Challenge. It is a great way for CIF to come together as a team for a good cause and have fun at the same time."

Putnamville Correctional Facility has implemented new programs to enhance offender services and the reentry process. The HELPS program (Helping Everyone Live Purposefully through Service) is structured to provide offenders with debilitating physical issues living assistance in their dorm and academic tutoring from graduates of the PLUS program. The facility also started a service center where staff aid offenders in obtaining documentation needed for release, such as birth certificates and social security cards. They also developed Specialized Case Management System designed to improve staff efficiencies and quality assurance efforts, and to meet the daily needs of the offender population.

Representatives from Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Paws Inc., a non-profit organization located in North Carolina that trains and places service and diabetic assistance dogs, visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to observe the facility's Indiana Canine Assistant Network (ICAN) program. Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Paws Executive Director Maria Ikenberry and Program Director Deb Cunningham were accompanied on their visit by ICAN Director Sally Irvin. The organization is interested in replicating the concept of the ICAN Program by possibly utilizing North Carolina Department of Correction offenders to train dogs for their agency.

Westville Correctional Facility welcomed world renowned chef and Chicago Tribune food critic Dave Pang, who spent two days touring the facility. Mr. Pang is authoring an article for the "Lucky Peach" gourmet food magazine and wanted to get the scoop on what offenders eat. He and his crew enjoyed a luncheon presented by the Culinary Arts program, interviewed offenders making treats from commissary items, dined with offenders in the dining halls and witnessed dinner being served in the maximum control unit. His theme referenced that most people take their food choices for granted, but inmates lose that freedom. He admitted his days at the facility were the most enlightening and interesting of his career.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility thanked two long time staffers for their dedicated service during retirement ceremonies. Correctional Officers Cathy Brock and James Thomas finished their tours of duty with receptions held in their honor. Officer Thomas was on the job for over 11 years and Officer Brock for 15 plus years. Both were past recipients of Employee of the Month honors and will be sorely missed.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility is pleased to announce the promotion of Gary Ballard to Correctional Lieutenant. Lt. Ballard was hired on November 28, 1988 as a Correctional Officer. Pursuing a position in the private sector, he left in 1995, but returned to IDOC in 2010. The Custody Department looks forward to adding his knowledge and experience to the shift supervisor's office. Please take the opportunity to congratulate Lt. Ballard on this accomplishment!

The Indiana State Prison would like to congratulate Dylan Cabanaw on his promotion to Correctional Lieutenant. Lt. Cabanaw began his career at the South Bend Juvenile Correctional Facility as a Correctional Officer in May 2006. He transferred to the Indiana State Prison in December of the same year. Dylan is married with three children and enjoys fishing. He resides in LaPorte County and has served his community as a Pop Warner Football Coach.

Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility (MJCF) held a ceremony for the facility's final group of GED graduates. The ceremony looked very similar to any other high school graduation ceremony, with cap and gowns, family and friends in attendance, and guest speakers. The students were given an opportunity to present a small speech reflecting on their time at MJCF, recognizing the staff that assisted them, and commenting on their future. One student hopes to obtain a career as a probation officer helping young people in doing what is right. Beginning this year, the GED test will be replaced by the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) test, which is more cost effective and easier to administer.

Camp Summit Boot Camp was re-accredited by the American Correctional Association at their Winter Conference in Tampa, Florida. The Facility attained a perfect score of 100 percent on 34 mandatory standards and a remarkable 100 percent on 359 non-mandatory standards.

Social Work and Law students from the Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis campus toured the Indianapolis Reentry Educational Facility (IREF) and discussed with staff and residents the avenues by which they may meet the legal needs or be of assistance to IREF residents.